GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1531
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2001
IMPORT OF EDIBLE OILS PULSES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are importing edible oils and pulses to meet the requirement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time stipulated by the Government to make the country self-reliant in production of the above items;

(d) whether any scheme has been prepared by the Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a)&(b): There is a gap between demand and supply of Edible Oils & Pulses tomeet the requirement of the country. The gap is met through imports of both the commodities. The import of Edible Oils & Pulses during the year 1999-2000 is as under:

Item	Quantity (Lakh tonnes)
Edible Oils	41.96
Pulses	2.04

(c)to(e): A Technology Mission on Oilseeds was set-up in 1986 in order to make the country self-sufficient in the production of Oilseeds/Edible Oils. Susbsequently, in 1990 Pulses were also brought and added to the Mission. The Mission has already achieved the short-term goal of increasing production of oilseeds in 1989-90 upto the level of 16.92 million tonnes as against the target of 16.50 million tonnes. Production of 16.50 million tonnes of pulses and 30.00 million tonnes of Oilseeds has been fixed by the Planning Commission for terminal year of IX Plan i.e. 2001-2002 to attain self reliance in these sectors. The Mission has launched two Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) & National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) for increasing the production of Oilseeds/Edible Oils & Pulses in the country. Both these schemes are under implementation in various States/UTs in the country. Financial Assistance under these schemes is provided on various critical inputs like production and distribution of seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, rhizobium culture and PSB/micro nutrients etc. In order to disseminate the production technology amongst farmers, frontline demonstrations are organized by the I.C.A.R.Besides, block and integrated pest management demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture. A new component of crash programme for quality seed production of groundnut and soybean has also been introduced during Ninth Plan. In order to meet the demand of seed during natural calamities, a seed bank programme has also been introduced during the Ninth Plan.